

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN SY-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 ABF-01 /071 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 068115

INFORM CONSULS

E.O 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: PROPOSED INCREASES IN POST PROTECTIVE SECURITY
EQUIPMENT

FOR AMBASSADORS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS FROM GENTILE, DASS

REFERENCE: (1) CA-2833, SUBJ; PROTECTION OF PERSONNEL
AGAINST ATTACK - CATALOG OF SPECIAL EQUIPMENT DATED MAY
21, 1970; (2) A-865, SUBJ; EMERGENCY & EVACUATION: PRO-
TECTIVE DEVICES, DATED JANUARY 26, 1972

1. IN A CONTINUING EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND
FLEXIBILITY OF SECURITY EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR EMERGENCY
USE BY FOREIGN SERVICE POSTS, A/SY, AS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE
FY-74 TERRORIST BUDGET AMENDMENT, HAS INITIATED PROCUREMENT
ACTION ON A VARIETY OF DEFENSIVE WEAPONS, CHEMICAL DETER-
RENTS, BODY ARMOR, ETC.

2. TO INSURE ADEQUATE, EQUITABLE, AND PRUDENT DISTRIBUTION
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OF THE EQUIPMENT UNDER ORDER, A/SY HAS INITIATED A PROGRAM

WHEREBY EXISTING STOCKS OF PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AT POSTS WILL BE AUGMENTED CONSISTENT WITH THE ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL LOCAL THREAT CONDITIONS AND THE POSTS' PERCEIVED NEEDS TO EFFECTIVELY MEET SUCH THREATS.

3. IN ORDER THAT SUCH NEEDS CAN BE ACCURATELY ASSESSED,

RSO'S HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CONTACTING POSTS UNDER THEIR COGNIZANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF A) CONDUCTING INVENTORIES OF EXISTING POST PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT STOCKS; B) PROVIDING POSTS WITH A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM AS CURRENTLY ENVISAGED, C) SOLICITING THE COM'S APPROVAL REGARDING THE INCREASED PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT BEING PROPOSED. IN THE LATTER CONNECTION, NO ADDITIONAL STOCKS OF SUCH EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED WITHOUT THE EXPLICIT CONCURRENCE OF COM.

4. POSTS ARE URGED TO GIVE PROMPT AND SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO THE SECURITY ITEMS PROPOSED. OUR EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS THAT NO POST CAN AFFORD TO IGNORE THE CONSTANTLY CHANGING PATTERNS OF THE CRITICALLY ESCALATING THREAT OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. MOREOVER, POSTS MUST APPRECIATE THAT ALTHOUGH THEY MAY HAVE NO PRESENT THREAT FROM TERRORISTS AND THEREFORE REQUIRE NO EXTENSIVE INVENTORY OF PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, NEVERTHELESS, SITUATIONS CHANGE SUDDENLY. ALL POSTS SHOULD ACCEPT THAT A/SY'S ABILITY TO MEET IMMEDIATE DEMANDS FOR EQUIPMENT MAY BE LIMITED IN THE FUTURE. IT IS RECOMMENDED, THEREFORE, THAT EACH POST SERIOUSLY CONSIDER ACQUIRING A BASIC INVENTORY OF PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT TAILORED TO ITS NEEDS, TO BE ON HAND BEFORE EMERGENCIES ARISE, SO ALL PERSONNEL CAN BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE EMPLOYMENT OF THE EQUIPMENT. RUSH

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